Delta-8, Delta-9, Delta-10 - What's the Difference?

Cannabis is often regarded as a plant of one thousand and one molecules, thanks to the different chemicals that make it an invaluable addition to our world. While the world is mostly concerned about popular cannabinoids like Cannabidiol (CBD), cannabigerol (CBG), cannabinol (CBN), tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), there are quite other sub-classes that may possess a good level of medical and recreational use. Note that cannabinoids are classified as cannabidiol, tetrahydrocannabinol, cannabigerol, and cannabinol with several sub-divisions. Tetrahydrocannabinol, for instance, is a large class of cannabinoids with over 10 sub-divisions, including Delta-8, delta-9, and delta-10 THC. These subdivisions exhibit minute differences in their properties, thus affecting how they interact with cannabinoid receptors in the body.

How to differentiate between Delta-8, Delta-9, and Delta-10

Finding the differences between THC delta 8, 9, and 10 is quite tricky since the molecules only exhibit slight differences in their arrangement of atoms. These are known as isomers. From a chemical standpoint, an isomer is a molecular structure shared by different biological varieties but differs due to specific atoms. THC delta 8, 9, and 10 are referred to as the THC isomers. As stated earlier, the arrangement of these atoms determines how the cannabinoids interact with targets to produce results, thus impacting a consumer's experience.

Looking at the molecular structures, the only visible difference between this triune (delta-8, 9, and 10) is the presence of a double bond on the 8th, 9th, and 10th carbon atom, as shown in the image below.

Delta-8 THC

Delta-9 THC

Delta-10 THC